

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

"Parks Make Life Better!"

John Wicker, Acting Director

March 01, 2016

The Honorable Board of Supervisors County of Los Angeles 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

ACCEPTANCE OF DONATION OF ARCADIA VIETNAM WAR MONUMENT PROJECT AT ARCADIA COUNTY PARK TO BE PERFORMED BY THE ARCADIA VIETNAM WAR MONUMENT (SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 5) (3 VOTES)

SUBJECT

Approval of the recommended actions will allow the Department of Parks and Recreation to accept the donation of Arcadia Vietnam War Monument Project, valued at approximately \$30,000, at Arcadia County Park from The Arcadia Vietnam War Monument.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

- 1. Find the proposed Arcadia Vietnam War Monument Project at Arcadia County Park categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act for the reasons stated herein and the reasons reflected in the record of the project.
- 2. Authorize the Acting Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation, or his designee, to execute any documents necessary for the completion of the proposed project to install a monument at Arcadia County Park, and to accept the donated value of the project valued at approximately \$30,000 on behalf of the County.
- 3. Instruct the Acting Executive Officer of the Board of Supervisors to send a letter of appreciation to The Arcadia Vietnam War Monument, in form similar to the attached draft letter, for its generous donation.

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PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approval of the recommended actions will allow the Acting Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation, or his designee, to enter into any necessary agreements with The Arcadia Vietnam War Monument (AVWM) to implement the proposed Arcadia Vietnam War Monument Project (Project) at Arcadia County Park, and to accept the donation of the improvements to the County. The entirety of the Project will be installed at no cost to the County.

Over four decades ago, the City of Arcadia tragically lost fourteen of its young citizens to the war in Vietnam. In honor of these young citizens, the AVWM, with fundraising assistance provided by Arcadia Elks Lodge #2025 (Elks), is donating a monument which will stand on static display in respect and tribute to all surviving Vietnam era veterans and their families. Arcadia County Park provides the best location for the Project due to the park's proximity to the City of Arcadia.

The Project, valued by AVWM at approximately \$30,000, consists of a 9 foot-8 inch long, 2 foot-8 inch wide, 7 foot high monument to be installed on a 20 by 12 foot red brick hardscape ("plaza") in a herringbone type pattern. The approximate location is near the fountain at the northeastern corner of Arcadia County Park. AVWMs construction of the Project is anticipated to start on March 28, 2016, and to be completed by May 20, 2016.

<u>Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals</u>

The recommended action will further the Board-approved County Strategic Plan Goal of Operational Effectiveness/Fiscal Sustainability (Goal 1) by accepting a donation that improves a County park and benefits the people of Los Angeles County.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There is no fiscal impact to the County. The Project will be completed at AVWM's sole cost and expense. At completion, the Project's estimated donation value to the County will be approximately \$30,000.

OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT

The recommended action will have no fiscal impact to the Department's East Agency. The Department anticipates no ongoing operating costs as a result of AVWM's proposed Project. The Project will be completed at the sole cost and expense of AVWM. At completion, AVWM/Elks will assume ongoing maintenance for the monument and the plaza as stated in the letter of agreement submitted by AVWM (Attachment I).

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

County policy requires that donations of \$10,000 and over be submitted to the Board of Supervisors for acceptance. Acceptance of this donation is consistent with Government Code Section 25355.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

The proposed Project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The Project, which consists of installation of a monument and brick hardscape for the plaza, is within certain classes of projects that have been determined not to have a significant effect on the

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environment in that it meets the criteria set forth in Sections 15303 (e) and 15304 (a) of the State CEQA Guidelines, and Classes 3(b) and 4 (a) of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because the Project involves construction of a new small structure and minor alterations in the condition of land.

The proposed Project will not involve the removal of healthy, mature, and scenic trees. Additionally, the proposed Project is not in a sensitive environment, and there are no cumulative impacts, unusual circumstances, or other limiting factors that would make the exemption inapplicable based on the proposed Project's records.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

AVWM'S construction of the Project is anticipated to start on March 28, 2016, and complete by May 20, 2016. The recommended actions will have no impact on any current services or projects at Arcadia County Park. Activities required to complete the work will be scheduled to ensure that there are no negative impacts on patron services or scheduled events.

CONCLUSION

Please instruct the Executive Office - Clerk of the Board of Supervisors to forward one adopted copy of this action to the Chief Executive Office and the Department of Parks and Recreation. In addition, please instruct the Acting Executive Officer of the Board of Supervisors to send a letter of appreciation to The Arcadia Vietnam War Monument for its generous donation, in a form similar to the attached draft letter (Attachment II), to:

Gene Glasco, Founder The Arcadia Vietnam War Monument 27 West Huntington Drive Arcadia, CA 91006

Should you have any questions, please contact Richard Chang at (626) 333-4720 or rchang@parks.lacounty.gov, Frank Gonzales at (626) 369-8694 or fgonzales@parks.lacounty.gov, Kasey Dizon at (213) 738-2986 or kdizon@parks.lacounty.gov, or Kaye Michelson at (213) 738-2955 or kmichelson@parks.lacounty.gov.

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Respectfully submitted,

JOHN WICKER

Acting Director

JW:FG:MR:rc

Enclosures

c: Chief Executive Officer

County Counsel

Acting Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors

ATTACHMENT I

LETTER OF AGREEMENT OF ON-GOING MAINTENANCE

January 18, 2016

Mr. Richard Chang
Department Facilities Planner I
East County Community Services Agency
County of Los Angeles-Dept. of Parks and Recreation
265 Cloverleaf Drive
Baldwin Park CA 91706

Dear Mr. Chang:

This is a letter of agreement by and between County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation (County) the Arcadia Elks Lodge#2025 (Elks) a 501-c3 non-profit organization and the Arcadia Vietnam War Monument (AVWM) who are establishing a small monument, e.g.- the Arcadia Vietnam War Monument in the Arcadia County Park.

The County has determined that its interests would be served by a letter between the Parties for maintenance of the Monument.

In consideration of the Elks/AVWM assumption of the maintenance obligations as requested by the County, the Elks/AVWM will agree to maintain the Monument for the benefit of the County subject to the Elks/AVWM terms and conditions set forth below:

Elks/AVWM shall, without cost to the County, maintain and repair the Monument as necessary to keep the Monument in a safe and usable condition.

Elks/AVWM will maintain its lettering and plaques. It will also maintain the Monument's benches and the hardscape cement "plaza" it is situated on.

It is expected the County will agree to provide intermittent observance and minor upkeep of the Monument and Monument area, including but not limited to collection and disposal of refuse discarded on or within close proximity to the Monument, its benches and/or the "plaza" area it is situated on.

The Monument shall be accessible to the public for activities not inconsistent with its use as a monument, subject to such reasonable use restrictions as the Elks/AVWM, with the approval of the County, may impose.

As our Nation is officially commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War, the Arcadia Vietnam War Monument will stand in respectful remembrance and tribute to all County of Los Angeles veterans who unselfishly served and also died for the great Country in which we live.

Respectfully Submitted:

Gene Glasco Founder-Arcadia Vietnam War Monument Robert DiGioia Exalted Ruler Arcadia Elks Lodge#2025

ATTACHMENT II

SAMPLE DONATION LETTER

(DATE)

Gene Glasco, Founder The Arcadia Vietnam War Monument 27 West Huntington Drive Arcadia, CA 91006

Dear Mr. Glasco:

DONATION

At its meeting held on March 1, 2016, the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors accepted, with thanks, the generous donation of Arcadia Vietnam War Monument Project, valued at approximately \$30,000, at Arcadia County Park.

This donation of Arcadia Vietnam War Monument will serve in tribute to all surviving Vietnam era veterans and their families. We appreciate your effort to honor our Vietnam Veterans and their families at Arcadia County Park.

The Board members requested that I express their appreciation to you for this generous donation.

Very truly yours,

Patrick Ogawa Acting Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors

PO:rc